

Assemblymember Christine Kehoe Brings You News

September 13, 2002

San Diego River Conservancy Bill Signed by Governor Davis

Governor Gray Davis came to San Diego to join the many advocates of the San Diego River and sign my measure to establish the San Diego River Conservancy (AB2156) on September 13. The state conservancy will develop a master plan to conserve, restore and enhance the river for habitat, recreation, and flood control. A San Diego River Conservancy gives the river a formal structure. In its first year it will receive \$12 million from Proposition 13 and Proposition 40 funding, and is eligible for future state funds as well. Five of the members on the board are from the public at large, three of which are appointed by Governor Davis, one by the Senate and one by the Speaker of the Assembly. The Mayor of San Diego, one member of the City Council also serve.

To read the legislation go to <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov> and search for AB 2156 "Active Bills". To view pictures of the signing of this bill visit my web site at www.assembly.ca.gov.

What's a Speaker Pro Tem?

Assembly Speaker Herb J. Wesson Jr. appointed me as Speaker pro Tempore of the California State Assembly on Tuesday, September 11. This post includes presiding over the Assembly floor sessions and keeping the Assemblymembers in order and on task –a job I love!

"Christine Kehoe represents the best of what California has to offer," Speaker Wesson said. "I am confident she will conduct the affairs of this House with grace and efficiency."

As the second woman to hold the Speaker pro Tempore position in the state Assembly, I'm thrilled to be given this responsibility. You can view the Assembly in action on Cox Cable Channel 23 starting in December when we are back in session.

Budget Signed

After months of difficult negotiations and hours of debate, the budget has been passed by the Assembly and signed by the Governor. While the budget includes nearly \$9 billion in cuts, it includes revenues that protect critical health care, education, law enforcement and senior citizens services. To balance the budget we had to make difficult decisions regarding crucial state services. However, the state's Legislative Analyst estimates that the spending cap we've put in place will result in a balanced budget next year and surpluses by the 2005-2006 budget year. Of course, our ultimate goal is to see that crucial state programs are properly funded.

I Love A Clean San Diego, don't you?

Trash and debris that is discarded throughout inland areas makes its way to San Diego beaches via lakes, creeks, streams and rivers. Improperly discarded trash and debris have adverse effects on human health, wildlife and the well being of our coastal and inland resources.

When I was elected to represent residents of the 76th Assembly District, one of my priorities was to do something for the San Diego River. And I am so pleased to see that in a short time we have accomplished much for this natural resource. Of course, we need to clean up and enhance *all* of our waterways. In an attempt to raise awareness and consolidate volunteer efforts, I Love A Clean San Diego (ILACSD) and the County of San Diego's Project Clean Water will host a Coastal Cleanup Day Kickoff Ceremony.

Join me, Mayor Dick Murphy, numerous volunteer groups and thousands of San Diegans for the Volunteer Cleanup event on September 21. Read event information below, or go to <http://www.ilacsd.org> for more information.

Upcoming Events

In September and October I'll be participating in a series of events and Town Hall Meetings on a wide-range of topics –I hope to see you there.

“I love a Clean San Diego – Coastal Cleanup” – September 21, 2002, 9 a.m. to Noon. Sefton Park Little League Field (Mission Valley Preserve), located at the end of Hotel Circle Place. Directions: Take Highway 8, exit Taylor Street, follow Hotel Circle Place to little league field.

“Making College Affordable” – September 25, 5:30-7:00 p.m., Taft Middle School auditorium, 9191 Gramercy Drive. Meet with education representatives to hear how you can make college affordable for your children, apply for scholarships, and invest in the California Golden State ScholarShare College Savings Trust Fund Program.

“Protecting your Privacy” – October 9, 5:30-7:00 p.m., Joyce Beers Community Center, 1230 Cleveland Ave. Meet with representatives to learn how to protect your privacy and personal information. Learn how to protect your credit report, financial information and how to safeguard yourself against identity theft.

“Senior Health Care” – October 10, 12:45 – 2:00 p.m., College Avenue Senior Center, 4855 College Ave. Opportunities to discuss HMOs, Medi-Cal, Health Care Financing, drug costs, health insurance and services.

To RSVP, or for more information, contact me at Assemblymember.Kehoe@assembly.ca.gov.

Free Brochures available from the Kehoe Library

I have a variety of free brochures available to you. Email me at Assemblymember.Kehoe@assembly.ca.gov to get a listing of our brochures and have some sent to you.